

3/23/83 *Advised Cons re in process + per*
 SWITZERLAND DENIES EXTRADITION

W463A

The Swiss Federal Court denied an extradition request for five Argentine citizens requested by Judge Carlos Oliveri, the Foreign Office informed the magistrate. The extradition request referred to Ruben Osvaldo Bufano, Luis Alberto Martinez, Amalia Maria Cova, Mariana Bosch de Sanchez Reisse and Leandro Reisse, indicted by various kidnappings in Argentina between 1979 and 1981, in which they acted disguised as members of the security forces. Presently they are under preventive detention in the Champ-Dollon prison in Geneva and were detained by the Swiss police at the request of Interpol in Lausanne and Geneva on March 12, 1981.

The negative by the Swiss court is based on the fact that "there were serious reasons to believe that in case they should be returned to their country of origin the treatment to be applied to them would be contrary to human rights".

Statements made by the detainees indicate that the kidnappings were carried out at the orders of their superiors -- as they claim to belong to irregular groups which fought against subversion -- as a means to raise funds to help carry out anti-subversive fight in Argentina.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
 U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/PS
 Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny
 Exemption(s):
 Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to
 Date ☐ Declassify on ☐ Reason

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The group kidnapped financier Fernando Combal and banker Carlos David Kildobsky. From the latter's family they obtained 1,5 million dollars to be delivered in Geneva and when doing so, Ruben Bufano and Luis Martinez were picked up. Later Mrs. Martinez and the Sanchez Reisse couple were detained in Lausanne.

Both Bufano and his brother Carlos Daniel who is at large, stated to belong to Intelligence Battalion 601 of the Argentine army and Martinez claimed to be a member of the Argentine Federal Police. The Sanchez Reisse couple claimed to be under a contract with Martinez to pick up the money in Geneva and because they thought they were dealing with an internal revenue problem. They also said they had been chosen because they had business dealings in the US, their last place of residence.

The five detainees were recognized by Fernando Combal in Geneva. Combal is a member of the board of FINSUR and had been kidnapped in Buenos Aires in May 1979. His family had paid a 1 million dollar ransom in Buenos Aires.

The detainees, held by the Swiss authorities, are being tried by Argentine courts for alleged involvement in the kidnappings of Kildobsky and Fernando Combal.

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On the other hand, the Swiss lawyers of the detainees are opposed to extradition in view of the alleged lack of guarantees in trial and of the state of siege prevailing in Argentina.

MP 

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